## PT - 9

Winston H. Hickox
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

## State Water Resources Control Board

## **Division of Water Rights**

901 P Street • Sacramento, California 95814• (916) 657-1951 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2000 • Sacramento, California • 95812-2000 Fax (916) 657-1485 Web Site Address: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov



## APR 2 6 1999

Mr. Marc A. Lucca California-American Water Company P.O. Box 951 Monterey, CA 93942-0951

Dear Mr. Lucca:

CARMEL RIVER DAM AND RESERVOIR PROJECT - 262.0 (27-01)

By letter dated March 25, 1999, you provided information on the status of the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) that the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) is preparing for the Carmel River Dam and Reservoir Project. One of the options for the California-American Water Company (Cal-Am) to comply with Order WR 95-10 is to construct and operate the proposed reservoir project. A prerequisite to this action is completion of the SEIR.

At its February 25, 1999 Board meeting, MPWMD chose to modify the scope of the SEIR to encompass use of additional water for growth. As a result of this action, MPWMD will need to circulate a revised SEIR after it develops the new information for inclusion in the document. This will result in a substantial delay in certification of a final SEIR. MPWMD projects that a final SEIR will not be completed before June 2000, and certification will be delayed by a minimum of 34 additional weeks beyond the original schedule. I appreciate the update regarding this matter, but I am disappointed by the delay.

Order WR 95-10 requires Cal-Am to implement diligently actions to terminate its unlawful diversions from the Carmel River. During the interim period, Cal-Am is required to implement water conservation measures with the goal of limiting Carmel River diversions to 11,285 acre-feet per annum. Cal-Am is expected to comply fully with this requirement until it obtains legal rights for all of its diversions.

Katherine Mrowka is the staff person presently assigned to this matter. If you require further assistance, Ms. Mrowka can be contacted at (916) 657-1951.

Sincerely,
ORIGINAL SIGNED
BY HARRY M. SCHUELLER

Harry S. Schueller, Chief Division of Water Rights

Mr. Darby Fuerst cc:

> Monterey Peninsula Water Management District P.O. Box 85

Monterey, CA 93942-0085

Ms. Ellyn Levinson Deputy Attorney General Office of the Attorney General 50 Fremont Street, Suite 300 San Francisco, CA 94105-2239

bcc:

Barbara Katz, OCC

Steve Herrera, DWR

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